



ARRL Member

Club Since 1974



# The Groundplane

Volume 12 Issue 5

May 2011

## Always Changing

Last year the question pool changed for the Technician Element 2 exam. This year, on July 1, 2011 there will be a new question pool for General Element 3. That pool will be in effect until June 30, 2015.

So, if you want to move up your Technician Class license to the world of HF, you need to hustle over to our VE testing Saturday, May 14th or Tuesday, June 14th.

If you'd like to give back to this community and enjoy the thrill of shaking the hand of someone who just passed their exam, then consider becoming a Volunteer Examiner.

The Tri City VE Group is part of the ARRL VEC so go to [www.ARRL.org](http://www.ARRL.org) and check into becoming a VE.

There's no cost. The manual is available for free online (or you can purchase the hardcopy),

and the 40-question exam that proves you read the manual is open book. It's easy!

If you have any questions, contact either of us. We'd love to have you on the team.

Rita Derbas K1I6SSQ and  
Bernhard Hailer AE6YN

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## May Keynote

How do you live, talk and eat while living on a different planet? At our May meeting, Sarah Thompson will share her adventures at the MARS Desert Research Station - a MARS surface exploration habitat.

Learn what it's like to navigate while wearing an analogue space suit, boots, gloves and an air supply pack, as well as what to do when your vehicle breaks down or a crew member is injured. Being able to communicate is crucial.

Sarah Thompson is a staff scientist at NASA Ames working in robotics and in software validation and verification. She moved to the US in 2006 after completing a PhD in radiation-hard electronics at the University of Cambridge, England. Her interest in ham radio happened consequentially to getting involved in emergency communications at NASA, both as a member of the DARTCOM team and on several arctic field deployments.

Also on the agenda - Dan Curtis, N6WN will give us a debrief of the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC) meeting on May 7th.

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## EM-COM Info

Tri-City ARES

Web site: [www.fremontares.org](http://www.fremontares.org)

Contact: Joe Pistritto, N3CKF

CERT Comm—Fremont

Web site: [www.fremontcert.org](http://www.fremontcert.org)

Contact: Jim Thomas, KI6TCE

CERT Comm—Newark

Contact: Mike Berke KI6EGL

## May Raffle Prizes

1. Wouxun KG-UV3D Dual Band Dual Frequency 144MHz and 440MHz Handheld Transceiver.

2. Two tickets for Maker Faire Bay Area 2011 (May 21 or May 22) Donated by NE6RD Mike.

3. The latest General Class License Manual 4. 7-in-1 Multi-Function Pocket Tool Key Chain

## Repeater Returns!

This from Dan,KG6IOB: The 441.125 repeater is back on line. ACWD would like us to do as much testing on the repeater as possible in the next few days so that any issues can be resolved quickly with the vendor.

Special thanks to Trevor, KI6KGN as his assistance was invaluable in getting all the questions about the settings resolved quickly.

## Swap Meets

### LARK Swap Meet

We regret to inform you that after nearly two decades of monthly Sunday morning amateur radio and electronics swap meets, the Livermore Amateur Radio Klub (LARK) is pulling the plug and canceling all future swap meets effective immediately. There will NOT be a May swap and all swaps for the foreseeable future have been canceled.

This was a difficult decision, one that was avoided several times in recent months, but the reality cannot be avoided any longer. Declining attendance by both sellers and buyers, rising costs and the difficulty in recovering from the loss of the swap being held at Los Positas college are just a few of the reasons that led to this decision.

### Electronics Flea Market

Due to scheduling conflicts at De Anza College, the May flea market has been pushed out to the third Saturday (May 21st). Please make a note about this so you don't show up on the wrong day.

The market opens around 5:00am and closes at 12:00 Noon. Sellers must pack up and leave the property by 1:00PM.

More information and directions may be found at the Electronics Flea Market web site at

<http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

## Repeaters and Nets

### Repeaters

WA6PWW: 147.015+ 600Khz, PL 103.5

WA6PWW: 223.900- 500Khz, PL 107.2

WA6PWW: 442.600+ 5Mhz, PL 107.2

K6AIR: 441.525+ 5Mhz, PL 123.0

ACWD: 441.125 +5MHZ, PL 100.0

### Nets

9 am Talk Net: M-F, 9am-11am, (N6NFI) 145.230- PL 100.0

25-25 Net: Wednesdays 8:00 p.m. 144.230MHz USB

ARES Net: Tuesday @ 7:30pm, 147.015 + PL 103.5

FARS Net: Thursday @ 8:00pm, (N6NFI) 145.230- PL 100.0

Slow Speed (CW) Net: Tue/Sun 7:30 pm, 144.175 (+/- KHz as needed)

Youth Net: Saturdays, 2pm, (N6NFI) 145.230- PL 100.0

LPRC Net: Thursdays @8:00 p.m., (N6IJ) 146.640 PL 162.2

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## Section Convention

Jim Latham, AF6AQ, the ARRL East Bay Section Manager, has requested our assistance with the Section Convention. Help is needed in these areas:

- Talk in radio and operator.
- Man the ARRL display
- Introduce speakers

After the convention, Jim will be forming a Section Convention committee for the next year.

Ryan, K3SFG, will make an announcement at the May SBARA meeting and will collect names of volunteers. Be sure to speak with Ryan if you can help.

The ARRL East Bay Section Convention is scheduled for June 4, 2011 in Berkeley. For more information visit:

<http://www.eastbaysectionarrrl.org/2011/03/22/2011-arrrl-east-bay-section-convention>

## Newark ARES/CERT



### Next Meeting

There will be NO monthly meeting this month, Sorry, but there is a conflict with Newark CERT Class 5 (many of us are teaching or helping at the Silliman Center). Meetings will resume in June.

Our ARES SEC and DEC have changed! Our previous District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) John Rabold KS6M has moved up to the Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) position, and we now have a new DEC, Mr. Sandy Levine KO6JF from the city of Alameda. Congratulations to both! So the ARES leadership above us in the East Bay Section looks like this now:

Section Manager (SM) Jim Latham AF6AQ [jrlatham@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrlatham@sbcglobal.net)

Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) John Rabold KS6M [ks6m@jrabold.net](mailto:ks6m@jrabold.net)

District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) Sandy Levine KO6JF@ARRL.NET

The next Tri-City HAM License Exam Sessions in Fremont are listed at [www.sbara.org](http://www.sbara.org) The Volunteer Examiner (VE) group organized by Rita KI6SSQ and Bernhard AE6YN continues to enjoy great success. They have been instrumental in producing a lot of new HAM operators and upgrades in our area. The next few test sessions are:

May 14                      Saturday 9:00 a.m.

The next HAM Cram Exam Session is in Fremont on June 4th:

For more information visit [www.baears.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=65&Itemid=55](http://www.baears.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=65&Itemid=55)

## **SBARA**

Mailing Address  
Box 8401  
Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401



**Founded 1974**

Our meeting location is at:

Hurricane Electric, 60  
Mission Court Fremont, Ca.

Come to the meeting and  
bring your; Go Pack, HF  
Rig, HT, and Antennas!!

Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

|                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>President</b>           | Sarah Thompson, NQ6K |
| <b>Vice President</b>      | Albert Wu, KJ6CHW    |
| <b>Treasurer</b>           | Don Amyx, N6DA       |
| <b>Secretary</b>           | Jim Thomas, KI6TCE   |
| <b>Newsletter Editor</b>   | —OPEN—               |
| <b>Webmaster</b>           | Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG  |
| <b>Quartermaster</b>       | Dan Curtis, N6WN     |
| <b>Program Facilitator</b> | Rita Derbas, KI6SSQ  |

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

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